

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 EB-07 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /060 W
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R 161530Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0524

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - E.O., TAGS, AND SUBJECT ADDED

1. LATEST DEVELOPMENT IN CURRENT "HOLY WAR" ON SMUGGLERS AND BLACK MARKETEERS IS "REQUEST" OF GUINEAN SECONDARY AND UNIVERSITY-LEVEL STUDENTS TO CLOSE THEIR SCHOOLS FOR AT LEAST EIGHT MONTHS TO WORK IN INTERIOR TEACHING LITERACY, WORKING ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, COMBATTING "TRAFFICKING," AND DOING PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS (REFTEL). GOG CENTRAL COMMITTEE FORMALLY APPROVED MODIFIED PROPOSAL FEB 25, AND SET UP 10-MEMBER MINISTERIAL COMMISSION TO CARRY IT OUT.

2. EMBOFF HAS DISCUSSED PROJECT WITH THREE PROFESSORS WHO SAY THAT:

A. THE 11 SCHOOLS OF NASSER POLY INSTITUTE AND THE 3 SCHOOLS OF POLY INSTITUTE AT KANKAN AND THE 22 PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS (ONLY POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS IN GUINEA) WILL BE CLOSED MARCH 15 THRU NOV 30.

B. SECONDARY SCHOOLS WILL STAY OPEN, STUDENTS WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

C. NON-GUINEAN PROFESSORS OF SUBJECTS SUCH AS ENGLISH,
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WHO NOT NEEDED IN INTERIOR, MAY RETURN TO THEIR COUNTRIES,

ALTHOUGH THIS IS NOT CERTAIN. SOME WILL PROBABLY BE ASSIGNED TO SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

D. STUDENTS SPOKESMAN'S OFFER OF SERVICE BY STUDENTS AND TEACHERS AT FEB 24 MASS MEETING WAS DECISION OF STUDENT GOVERNING COMMITTEE, MADE WITHOUT CONSULTING MASS OF STUDENTS OR TEACHERS.

3. COMMENT: PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED IN GETTING ANY SIGNIFICANT SERVICES FROM STUDENTS ARE ENORMOUS. TRANSPORTATION, LODGING, FEEDING OF STUDENTS, AND PROVIDING ANY EQUIPMENT FOR TEACHING OR WORKING SEEM TO BE INSOLUBLE PROBLEMS, UNLESS MAJOR EXPENDITURES OF GOV'T MONEY AND EFFORT ARE MADE.

4. TEN-MEMBER MINISTERIAL COMMISSION HEADED BY MAMADI KEITA, MIN OF DOMAIN EDUCATION AND CULTURE. COMMISSION ALSO INCLUDES EXTREME LEFTIST MIN OF IDEOLOGY SENAINON BEHANZIN (REPORTEDLY UNPOPULAR WITH STUDENTS). SEVERAL OF OUR DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES COMMENT THAT THEY CAN SEE FINE HAND OF BEHANZIN IN ENTIRE IDEOLOGICAL CAMPAIGN-- ANTI-BLACK MARKET, ANTI-SMUGGLING, ETCM-- ON WHICH SEKOU TOURE NOW EMBARKED. WE AGREE.

5. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER THIS STUDENT "CRUSADE" WILL ACTUALLY MATERIALIZE; HOW LONG IT WILL LAST, WHERE STUDENTS WILL GO, AND WHAT THEY WILL DO WHEN THEY GET THERE. MOST GUINEAN STUDENTS ARE EXPOSED TO LARGE DOSES OF IDEOLOGICAL INDOCTRINATION, BUT PRACTICAL TRAINING, AT LEAST ANY TRAINING THAT COULD BE OF MUCH USE TO THEM IN CURRENT CAMPAIGN, IS PRETTY WEAK.

6. GOVERNMENT HAS HAD ALMOST NO SUCCESS SO FAR IN CUTTING PRICES, ELIMINATING "BLACK MARKET" COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS IN FAVOR OF OFFICIAL PARTY DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, NOR, APPARENTLY, IN INDUCING LOCAL OFFICIALS TO ENFORCE TAXES ON PEASANTS. LATEST SCHEME OF ENLISTING STUDENTS IN THIS "VOLUNTARY" CAMPAIGN UNDOUBTEDLY DESIGNED TO INTIMIDATE LOCAL PARTY AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS EVEN FURTHER. WE HESITATE TO PREDICT OUTCOME AT THIS TIME.
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